

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00
CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01
DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-06 /115 W

-----261114Z 049823 /21

P 260931Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY ACCRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6269

USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY FREETOWN PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 0580

EO 11652 GDS

TAGS: ELAB, ILO, OATUU, AF

SUBC: HOROWITZ MEETING WITH OATUU SECRETARY GENERAL

REF: 76 STATE 294250,

1. JANUARY 19 US ILO REPRESENTATIVE HOROWITZ, ACCOMPANIED
BY AMBASSADOR SMITH AND LABOR REPORTING OFFICER, CALLED
ON OATUU SECRETARY GENERAL AKUMU. HOROWITZ OUTLINED
FOUR AREAS OF CONCERN TO U.S. IN ILO: TRIPARTITE
STRUCTURE, DOUBLE STANDARD, POLITICAL ISSUES AND CONDEMNATION
WITHOUT INVESTIGATION. HE EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. WANTS
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TO STAY IN ILO, BUT WILL NOT REMAIN IF MAJORITY
OF MEMBERS ARE NOT SERIOUS ABOUT RETURNING ORGANIZATION
TO PURPOSES.

2. HOROWITZ DESCRIBED PROPOSED U.S. AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE
17 OF STANDING ORDERS. AMENDMENT DEFINES CRITERIA FOR NON-
RECEIVABILITY AND PROVIDES MECHANISM FOR SCREENING

REESOLUTIONS. AMENDMENT, BY EXCLUDING MANY POLITICALLY SENSITIVE RESOLUTIONS, WILL EASE PRESSURE ON SOME COUNTRIES.

3. AKUMU EXPRESSED STRONG HOPE THAT UNITED STATES WOULD NOT WITHDRAW FROM ILO, CITING OUR LEADERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS OF MONEY AND EXPERTISE. AKUMU OBSERVED THERE IS OFTEN AGREEMENT AT HIGHEST POLITICAL LEVEL BETWEEN ARAB AND AFRICAN NATIONS. THESE NATIONS THUS FORM BLOC ON MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTHERN AFRICAN ISSUES. HOROWITZ AGREED THAT SOME ILO MATTERS HAVE POLITICAL IMPLICATIONS, CITING ILO DIRECTOR GENERAL'S ANNUAL REPORT ON APARTHEID. HOROWITZ EMPHASIZED THAT U.S. POSITION IN ILO IS NOT BASED ON MIDDLE EAST, AS POLITICAL PROBLEMS IN ANY AREA COULD BE USED TO DISRUPT ORGANIZATION.

4. WITH REGARD TO STRUCTURE, U.S. REPRESENTATIVE NOTED THAT GOVERNING BODY HAD BEEN ENLARGED TO REFLECT INCREASED ILO MEMBERSHIP AND THAT IN 1976 U.S. WENT ALONG WITH SOME STRUCTURAL CHANGES GIVING GENERAL CONFERENCE MORE POWER. A FEW RADICALS IN WORKING PARTY ON STRUCTURE HAVE THREATENED TO CALL CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION TO ALTER ILO STRUCTURE, WHILE U.S. DESIRES CONTINUING DIALOGUE ON THESE MATTERS, RATHER THAN CONFRONTATION. HOROWITZ OBSERVED PERMANENT NON-ELECTIVE SEATS PROVIDE CONTINUITY AND EXPERTISE IN ILO GOVERNING BODY. AKUMU REMARKED ILO STRUCTURE HAS LONG BEEN ON AGENDA OF MEETINGS OF OAU LABOR MISISTERS. ACCORDING TO AKUMU, POSITION OF AFRICAN

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WORKERS IN ILO WILL DEPEND ON AFRICAN LABOR MISISTERS, NOTABLY THOSE FROM SENEGAL, ZAIRE, ZAMBIA AND GHANA.

5. COMMENT: HOROWITZ HAD OTHER OPPORTUNITIES TO EXCHANGE VIEWS WITH AKUMU, AS BOTH WERE GUESTS AT DINNER AND RECEPTION, HOSTED BY DCM AND AMBASSADOR RESPECTIVELY.

ALTHOUGH AKUMU MADE NO PROMISES, HE WAS CAUTIOUSLY OPTIMISTIC THAT INFLUENTIAL AFRICANS WOULD SUPPORT U.S. POSITION IN ILO. HOROWITZ CONVERSATIONS WITH GOG OFFICIALS FOLLOW SEPTEL.
SMITH

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 26-Jan-1977 12:00:00 am
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Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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